


GOOLE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GOOLE:
THOMAS EARL, BRIDGE STREET POST OFFICE.



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GOOLE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1899.

POPULATION, IN 1891	...	...	...	...	15,416
ESTIMATED POPULATION IN 1899	...	...	...	...	17,000
AREA IN ACRES	...	...	...	...	1,331

TO THE GOOLE URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have now to present to you my Annual Report for 1899.

There is no satisfactory reason to suppose that the population has increased to any extent during the year, I have therefore again estimated the numbers to the middle of last year as 17,000.

606 births were registered last year,—males 320, females 286. Births.
The birth-rate for the year was 35·6 per 1,000 ; the average rate for the last five previous years was 35. In England and Wales the birth-rate last year was 29·3.

351 deaths were registered last year in Goole,—males 188, Deaths.
females 163, 20 of these were strangers in the town, such as those who died at the Workhouse belonging to the rural districts

and several cases of fatal accidents among sailors. 2 persons belonging to Goole died away from the town; the corrected number is 333, and the death-rate 19·5 per 1000. The average rate for the 5 previous years was 17. Some of the causes for the increase in the death-rate will be noted.

From zymotic diseases there were 63 deaths; the average number for the previous 5 years was 43. The death-rate last year was 3·6 per 1000, while the average was 2·5. The following list shows from what particular zymotic disease the excess arose :

					The average yearly number for 5 years was	
From diphtheria there were	...	14	deaths	...	3	
„ diarrhoea	„	...	18	„	...	15
„ measles	„	...	7	„	...	8
„ whooping cough	„	...	17	„	...	7·6
„ membranous croup	„	...	3	„	...	2
„ enteric fever	„	...	1	„	...	2·6
„ puerperal	„	...	3	„	...	1

21 deaths were caused by phthisis or tubercle of the lungs; of these 10 were males and 11 females. Of the total number one half died between the ages of 20 and 40 years. There were also 8 deaths of young children caused by tubercle of some other part of the body. The death-rate from all diseases certified as caused by tubercle was 1·7 per 1000.

From diseases of the lungs there were 47 deaths; the death-rate was 2·8. In the previous year it was 3·7.

Infants under one year died in the proportion of 196 per 1000 registered births; the average rate for 5 years was 157. It is among this group that the main share of the increase in last year's deaths occurred, for if the proportion had been the same as the 5 years average then the death-rate from all causes would have been 18 instead of 19 per 1000.

On examining the registered causes of these deaths I find that one-third died from “wasting diseases,” or “convulsions,” or “want of vitality,” or “teething.” These may be truly summed up under one heading, viz., inherited weakness. As few of the mothers go out to work in Goole, as is the rule in a manufacturing town, the cause of this serious waste of infant life is

difficult to explain. From the fact that there has not yet been any census of the population by wards, and that all the births and deaths are registered in Goole as one whole district, it is impossible to make a satisfactory comparison of these deaths among infants in one part of the town with another, or do more than note that 38 per cent. of these deaths among infants occurred in the South Ward, 28 per cent. in the North Ward, 17 per cent. in the East Ward, and 8 per cent. in the West and Central Wards.

37 deaths were returned on the Coroner's certificate.

- 14 were certified as due to natural causes.
- 11 " " drowning.
- 6 " " some form of accident.
- 3 " " burns.
- 2 cases of suicide.
- 1 was caused by poison.

The following are the cases of infectious diseases notified last year :—					Cases of Infectious Disease notified
Small-pox	...	...	...	1	
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	24	
Diphtheria	...	...	...	33	
Membranous croup	...	...	...	6	
Enteric fever	...	...	...	12	
Puerperal	...	...	...	4	
Erysipelas	...	...	...	32	
Total				112	

In the previous year there were 135.

The case of small-pox was found on a canal boat in the docks. The boat was ladened with wood and had only very recently left Hull. The case was removed to the hospital provided for cases of small-pox and the boat thoroughly purified.

Among the 24 cases of scarlet fever there was no death. 12 were treated in the hospital, and 9 of the cases were from separate houses, the remaining 3 were removed within a week from one house. It was only in January and February of last year that cases of scarlet fever were prevalent in Goole, as from March to the end of the year there were only 10 cases reported in 8 of the 10 months.

Diphtheria and
Membranous
Croup.

There were 33 cases of diphtheria and 6 of membranous croup notified; 14 of the diphtheria cases and 3 of the croup cases died. Considering them as virtually one disease the death-rate was 43 per cent. of the persons attacked.

There were 7 cases among children under 3 years.

„	„	14	„	„	between	3	and	5	years
„	„	10	„	„	„	5	„	10	„
„	„	2	„	„	„	10	„	15	„
„	„	6	„	adults	„	30	„	44	„

Among the children attacked under 5 years of age 61 per cent. died. Among those attacked between 5 and 10 years the deaths were 33 per cent. One of the 6 adults died.

6 cases were treated in the Hospital; 2 of these died, one the next day after it being received there, and the other two days after.

I have not had an opportunity of knowing in how many cases the ante-diphtheritic serum was used. Probably medical aid was not called in soon enough to give much hope for its use, for the notification of 7 of the cases was on the same day as each of these died. 20 of the cases occurred during January, February, and March; there were no cases in May, June, or July, but the disease has continued to a slight extent until the end of the year. Throughout the whole year second cases have occurred in the same house at intervals, varying from 3 days after the first to the longest period of 17 days. Every house with its surroundings have been inspected to ascertain if any adequate cause existed for the origin of the cases, but any serious sanitary defect existed in only comparatively few. The history of previous illness in other members of the family showed that there had been slight colds noticed, but the information in most of the cases was too vague to be trusted. As 21 of the cases were under 5 years of age the schools did not appear to be the cause of the infection, nor was the milk supply, which was from many sources, ever suspected. 2 main lessons were impressed on one by the continuance of this very infectious and very fatal disease, viz., that any case of sore throat or evidence of difficult breathing or swallowing in a child should have medical aid at once, and also

that the child should be separated from others during the whole illness. Many times the patient was found in the ordinary living room of the house, and every chance visitor came at once into the midst of the infection. 25 of the 39 cases with 7 deaths occurred in houses situate in the North and West Wards on the Boothferry side of the railway. 5 cases and 4 deaths occurred in the South Ward, which includes Doyle Street and Old Goole. There were 7 cases and 2 deaths in the East Ward and 2 cases and 1 death in the Central Ward. The deaths at the Hospital are entered in the Ward from which the patient was removed.

No case of real enteric fever was notified in Goole until the month of August; 12 were reported, but one was evidently a slight case of continued fever. In only one house was there a second case, and there the illness followed upon the death of a child from diarrhoea. In one half the remaining cases the history was of the definite illness beginning not less than a fortnight after coming to Goole from outside. If the infection had been at the houses at which they were notified it would have been expected that some one who had not been away would have been attacked instead of the new comers. Only 2 of the cases were removed to the Hospital—one died. 2 of the cases continued to go to work even when seriously ill, and such cases can readily act as the means of infecting others wherever a common closet is used. Altogether Goole had last Autumn exceptionally few cases of enteric fever when that disease was prevalent in many surrounding towns.

HOSPITALS FOR INFECTIOUS CASES.

During 1899, 32 cases were admitted into the Fever Hospital.

20 suffered from scarlet fever.

6 „ „ diphtheria.

4 „ „ enteric fever.

1 was a case of measles.

1 „ „ suspected fever.

14 of the cases of scarlet fever were from Goole and 6 from the rural parishes. 2 of the cases of enteric fever were from Goole and 2 from the rural parishes. All the cases of diphtheria were from Goole.

The following are the ages of the patients treated in the Fever Hospital :—

Under 5 years	...	...	7 cases.
Between 5 and 10 years	...	11	„
„ 10 „ 20	„	...	7 „
„ 20 „ 30	„	...	4 „
„ 30 „ 40	„	...	3 „

One adult was admitted to the Hospital provided for the treatment of cases of small-pox. The Council have agreed to reserve 6 beds for the Port Sanitary Authority at the cost of £25 per annum and 3/- per day for the maintenance of each patient. No cases of cholera to be admitted.

SANITARY WORK.

The most important sanitary work affecting the health of Goole carried out last year was the obtaining of a Private Act of Parliament by which a new water supply will be provided from the new red sandstone rock at Pollington. The works have not been begun, but the purchase of the land has been arranged and specifications of the work have been considered. 4 well waters in Goole were analysed last year. 2 were found to be seriously polluted and unfit to use; the other two were not satisfactory, as there was evidence of organic impurities present. 52 additional houses were supplied with the town's water last year.

Mr. Chambers informs me that “about half-a-mile of new streets have been made under the Private Street Works Act,” but nothing has been done towards properly making any back streets, other than dealing with them as nuisances. That latter action has done very little to permanently remedy what has long been complained of, viz., the wet and dirty condition of many back and cross streets. I have on several occasions urged that it is the children who are the greatest sufferers, as they make the most use of these back passages. I have already noted the fact that 64 per cent. of all the cases of diphtheria and membranous croup occurred in houses in the newest part of the town, *i.e.*, north of the railway. In that district there are very many of these damp and unhealthy back streets and passages,

and I think these help to make the children more susceptible of contracting such diseases of the throat, which very often begin as an ordinary cold. The same unfavourable conditions are seen in other parts of the town, and everywhere I think deserve a more permanent remedy than has yet been tried.

Mr. Chambers also says "several ventilators have been erected from sewers." At present there are long rows of houses where the house drains are not ventilated. The Council recently passed a resolution that the existing bye-law which requires every house drain to be ventilated shall in future be strictly carried out.

The building bye-laws have not yet been finally revised. Several cases were reported where the air space at the rear of houses had been encroached upon, in some to the extent that there was little if any space not covered with either permanent or temporary erections.

The Council received the sanction of the Local Government Board in May last to expend £6,500 on the erection of Baths. A committee have visited other buildings and reported to the Council on the works most suitable for Goole.

9 samples of milk were taken during 1899 by the Sanitary Inspector and forwarded to the Public Analyst; the report of 7 of these was that they were of "fair quality," the remaining 2 were of "inferior quality," these were from one seller taken after an interval of 4 days. Several of the registered cowsheds on inspection were not found in a satisfactory condition. More air space, better ventilation, and more frequent removal of manure was required in one or another.

The following is the list of animals slaughtered at the public slaughter house during 1899:—

Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.
864	1,432	1,960	25

There was an increase in the number of sheep and pigs when compared with 1898. Some improvements have been carried out; the clean condition of the place and the absence of any complaint are due to the Superintendent's constant supervision.

There were 50 more canal boats inspected last year, and while cases of small-pox were prevalent in Hull, extra attention was given to these boats, and the masters readily assisted the Inspector in his inquiries. The single case of small-pox that occurred was found on a canal boat that had come from Hull with a cargo of timber. The need for this special inspection of canal boats is shown by the fact that they are the home not only of the men for the time, but 96 women and 112 children were also found on board.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. MITCHELL WILSON,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

GOOLE, 7th February, 1900.

TABLE I.

LIST OF NUISANCES ABATED AND STRUCTURAL ALTERATIONS
MADE DURING THE YEAR 1899.

No. of Inspections made	...	...	...	...	2190
„ Verbal notices given	...	...	...	...	48
„ Written notices served	...	...	...	...	172
„ Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	211
„ Nuisances partly abated or in progress	...	...	...	...	9
The Nuisances abated include :—					
No. of House Drains repaired and defects remedied	...	...	...	...	134
„ Sinks and Cisterns disconnected from drains	...	...	...	...	5
„ Trapped Gullies fixed instead of Cesspools	...	...	...	...	15
„ Houses disinfected and cleansed	...	...	...	...	46
„ Other Nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	49
„ Manure Heaps removed	...	...	...	...	14
„ Closets and Ash-pits repaired	...	...	...	...	113
„ Box Closets and Dry Ash-pits emptied weekly	...	...	...	...	2645
„ Dry Ash-boxes emptied weekly	...	...	...	...	250
„ Loads of Night-soil removed	...	...	...	...	8494
„ Canal Boats examined	...	...	...	...	205
To hold Aft. 604 ; Forward 306 persons					
„ Boats on Goole Register—Highest No. 805	...	...	...	...	814
„ „ Registered in 1898	...	...	...	...	9
„ Regulations cancelled	...	...	...	...	8
„ Canal Boats' Notices served 20, verbal 23	...	...	...	...	43
„ „ Letters as to	...	...	...	...	46
„ „ Not Registered	...	...	...	...	8
„ „ Change of Owners not notified	...	...	...	...	18
„ „ Requiring better cleansing, &c.	...	...	...	...	3
„ „ Transfer of Ownership and Certificate	...	...	...	...	37
„ „ „ Captain's & Boat's Names	...	...	...	...	2
„ „ Duplicate Certificate provided	...	...	...	...	21
„ Cow-sheds, Dairies, and Milk-shops registered	...	...	...	...	48
„ Common Lodging-houses inspected	...	...	...	...	6
„ Bodies placed in Mortuary	...	...	...	...	9

TABLE II.
BIRTH and DEATH RATES in Goole for 1899, and for the previous Five Years, compared
with those of the whole Country.

Year.	Rate per 1000 of the Population.						Deaths in Infants per 1000 Births.	
	Births.		Deaths.		Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.			
	Goole.	England and Wales.	Goole.	England and Wales.	Goole.	England and Wales.	Goole.	England and Wales.
1899	35·6	29·3	19·5	17·1	3·6	2·2	196	163
1898	34·0	29·4	16·7	17·6	2·0	2·2	167	161
1897	33·1	29·7	15·0	17·4	1·9	2·1	167	156
1896	36·2	29·7	15·8	17·1	2·3	2·1	151	148
1895	36·0	30·3	18·8	18·7	2·8	2·14	161	161
1894	35·8	29·6	18·9	16·6	3·5	1·7	150	137

TABLE III.

DEATHS from the principal Zymotic Diseases in 1899, and during the Five previous Years.

	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894
Small-Pox	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	3	0	0	8	3
Membranous Croup	3	4	2	0	1	2
Diphtheria	14	2	1	5	10	6
Fever, Enteric	1	4	5	1	2	1
Puerperal	3	1	0	1	1	1
Measles	7	4	0	15	0	21
Whooping Cough	17	2	0	5	11	20
Diarrhoea	18	16	26	13	16	4
Total	63	36	34	40	49	58
Rate per 1000	3·6	2·0	1·9	2·2	2·8	3·5

TABLE IV.
DEATHS IN 1899 FROM SEVERAL GROUPS OF DISEASES CHIEFLY AMONG CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.

	Total.	Deaths per 1000 of Population.	Proportion of Deaths in every 1000 from all causes.
1—Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases	66	3·6	199
2—Pulmonary Diseases	45	2·8	168
3—Tubercular Diseases	32	1·2	96
4—Wasting Diseases of Infants	24	1·4	72
5—Convulsive Diseases of Infants	21	1·3	63

- 1.—Includes Measles, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, Enteric and Continued
Fever, Diphtheria, Membranous Croup, and Diarrhœa.
- 2.— " Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Pleurisy, and Asthma.
- 3.— " Phthisis, Scrofula, Tabes Mesenterica.
- 4.— " Marasmus, Atrophy, Debility, and Premature Birth.
- 5.— " Hydrocephalus, Infantile Meningitis, Convulsions, and Teething.

TABLE V.

Summary of Cases admitted in the Fever Hospital, Goole, during 1899.

DISEASES.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June.	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Recov- eries.	Died.
Scarlet Fever...	6	2	...	2	...	...	...	1	2	4	...	2	19	...
Enteric Fever...	...	...	..	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3	1
Diphtheria ...	...	..	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	4	2
Small-Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Totals ...	6	2	4	3	...	...	...	4	3	4	1	3	27	3

TABLE A.

TABLE OF DEATHS during the year 1899 in the Urban Sanitary District of Goole, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

Mortality from all causes at subjoined ages								Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five years of age.																			
NAMES of LOCALITIES adopted for the purposes of these statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.																											
(A)	At all ages.																										
	Under 1 year.																										
	1 and under 5.																										
	5 and under 15.																										
	15 and under 25.																										
	25 and under 65.																										
	65 and upwards.																										
GOOLE TOWN	312	115	67	10	18	66	36	Under 5 upwards	Small-pox	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membraneous Croup.	Enteric or Typhoid Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhœa.	Erysipelas.	Rheumatic Fever	Influenza.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	Heart Diseases.	Injuries.	All other Diseases	Total.	
									...	...	8	3	...	3	6	16	18	1	...	2	29	1	4	94	182	
									...	...	4	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	17	12	19	14	58	130	
THE COTTAGE HOSPITAL ...	6	1	2	...	1	1	1	Under 5 upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3
									...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
THE FEVER HOSPITAL ...	3	1	1	...	...	1	...	Under 5 upwards	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
									...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
THE WORKHOUSE	30	2	...	...	...	7	21	Under 5 upwards.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	8	...	2	...	2
									...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
TOTALS	351	119	70	10	19	75	58	Under 5 upwards	...	...	10	3	1	3	6	16	18	1	...	2	29	1	7	96	189	
									...	...	4	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	19	17	29	16	72	162	
The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.																											
Deaths occurring outside the District } among persons belonging thereto	2	.....	...	1	...	1	...	Under 5 upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
Deaths occurring within the District } among persons not belonging thereto	20	1	...	1	2	7	9	Under 5 upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	5	7	5	19

TABLE B.

TABLE of POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of NEW CASES of INFECTIOUS SICKNESS coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1899, in the Urban Sanitary District of GOOLE; classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.	Population at all ages.		Aged under 5 or over 5.	New Cases of Sickness in each locality coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.							Number of Cases removed from their homes in the several localities for treatment in Isolated Hospital.				
	Census, 1891.	Estimated middle of 1899.		Small-Pox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Enteric or Typhoid Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Small-Pox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Enteric or Typhoid Fever.	Other Diseases.
GOOLE TOWN ...	15308	16899	Under 5 upwards	1	7	15	6	1	...	...	...	2	3	...	...
THE COTTAGE HOSPITAL	...	...	Under 5 upwards	...	...	...	...	11	4	32	1	12	3	2	...
THE WORKHOUSE ...	108	101	Under 5 upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS ...	15416	17000	Under 5 upwards	1	7	15	6	1	4	32	1	12	3	2	...

Notification of Infectious Disease is compulsory in the district since 9th December, 1889.

The name of the Isolated Hospital used by the Sick in the District is the Fever Hospital, Goole.

